

February 10, 1984

John J. Stefano, Project Manager
Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Docket Nos. 50-440/441
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear John:

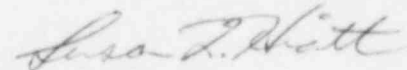
As a petitioner to the Beaver Valley Power Station Unit 2 OL proceeding, OCRE has received the enclosed correspondence concerning that facility's use of heavy-wall pipe fittings (tees and elbows). These fittings have about twice the nominal wall thickness; however, nominal values were assumed by piping designers in their analyses. The enclosed report indicates that the effects of the heavy fittings in some types of load responses may be significant.

A survey of five fitting vendors indicated that heavy pipe elbows have become prevalent in recent years and are "likely to exist at most nuclear facilities today." (p. 6) This, plus their use at two other plants in Region I, suggests that this might be a generic concern.

I would like to know if the Perry plant uses these heavy pipe fittings, and, if so, what effect such use has on piping design analyses for various (seismic, thermal) loads.

I am also interested in what the staff has done concerning the use of "stiff" pipe clamps at the Perry facility. See Board Notification BN-83-105A. It would appear that these deviations from the assumed, analyzed design warrant an as-built design review to consider their cumulative effect on plant piping systems.

Sincerely,



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cc w/ encl: James Keppler, R III

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